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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR Austria (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 16 Oct '53

SUBJECT 1. Soviet Army Pay
2. Prices in Soviet PX in Austria

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PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
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DATE OF

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. There was no ceremony involved in the payment of troops in the 7th Co., 3rd Bn., 290th Gds. Rifle Regt. The company commander drew the payroll from regiment which, in turn, had drawn it from the division finance section. The company clerk generally paid the troops for the company commander. Personnel were notified once a month by the first sergeant that their pay was ready to be picked up from the company clerk. the following pay scale was in effect as of Fall 1952:
 - a. Privates received 40 schillings (one ruble was equivalent to 6½ Austrian schillings) per month, 13 of which were deducted for government loan. Ten months a year the private received a receipt for 20 rubles which was entered into the government lottery upon his return to the USSR.
 - b. Privates First Class received the same pay as a private unless he was a specialist with responsibility; that is, gunner on a MIG, chief of a radio station, chief telephone operator (determined by the Platoon Leader), head cook in a supply platoon (determined by the Platoon Leader), a company clerk. These specialists all received 55 schillings a month.
 - c. Junior Sergeants and Sergeants also received pay in accordance with their duties. A squad leader, for instance, received 58 schillings per month (minus so many for government loan which were retained until his return to the USSR).
 - d. Master Sergeant (a First Sergeant) received 117 schillings, and 175 rubles per month (retained until his return to the USSR).

ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- e. Senior Lieutenant, if a platoon commander, received 1,200 schillings and 1,500 rubles which were retained until his return to the USSR.
- f. Medical corpsmen of a company received 75 schillings and 125 rubles.

2. prices of items in the PX at the 290th Gds. 25X1
Rifle Regt. in Mauer Uehling:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price (in Austrian schillings)</u>
Sugar, granulated	4.80 per lb.
Chocolate	2.50 to 3.00 per 100 gr.
Candy, packaged	1.80 per package
Cookies, packaged	1.75 per package
Tooth paste	2.80 per tube
Toothbrush	4.00 each
Razor, straight	27.00 each
Razor, safety	3.50 each
Blades, razor, safety	1.75 each
Shaving soap	10.00 and 15.00 per bar
Toilet soap	1.80 each
Toilet water	5.50 per bottle.
Face cream	4.50 per bottle
Shoe brush	8.00 each
Shoe polish	1.20 per tube and 4.50 per can
Mirror	2.50, small and 10.00, large
Envelopes	1.50 for 50
Writing tablet	.06 for 12 sheets and 3.00 for 32 sheets
Synthetic velvet material	47.50 per meter
Wall rug, 2 x 1.65 m.	150.00 each
Tablecloth, 2 x 1.8 m.	217.00 each
Tablecloth, 1.8 x 1.8 m.	190.00 each
Bedspread, double bed	117.00 each
Boots, black	350.00 pr.
Oxfords, men's	210.00 pr.
Handkerchiefs	2.50 each
Suitcases	37.00, 46.00, 48.00, 51.00 each

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